THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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Leopalooza, spring fling 2009 takes over Leo

BY CASEY MCKENNA
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Free concerts, food, and an escape artist are just a few of the things students at Saint Leo University can expect to experience this weekend.
Spring Fling will take place from Friday March 6 until Saturday March 7 in the bowl and in the boardrooms.

"It's been a lot of work, but the choices we have [in terms of bands] are going to put on a great performance. We've put a lot of work into it and we hope everyone enjoys it," said sophomore Cody Parks, assistant on the Campus Activities Board. The bands chosen for this year's concerts are Everclear, Florez, and Nina Sky. Also performing will be Amy Persaud, a student who is in her senior year at Saint Leo University. She will kick off the Spring Fling weekend with a concert on Friday night.

"Last year we were focusing on where the money was coming from, but with the new building coming in [last year] there were a lot of donations. Everything is more organized this year, and we'll hit this one out of the park," said sophomore Madison Starinieri, a student worker on the Campus Activities Board.

Matt the Knife, a comedian, magician, and escape artist, will be putting on an act in the boardrooms before Persaud performs Friday evening. Saturday afternoon the visiting bands will perform in the bowl. Between acts, Judson Laipply, the creator of the Evolution of Dance will be MC-ing. Along with the musical entertainment, students will find plenty of activities such as the inflatable obstacle course and "fun-gee" jumping.
Spring Fling 2009 Itinerary

The event is closed to the public, but. free to the SLU community, friends, and family. Be sure to bring your student ID in order to participate.

Friday March 6
-Matt the Knife - Boardrooms - 8 p.m.
-Kickoff Concert with Amy Persuad - Lakeside - 9:30 p.m.
Saturday March 7 - 1:30-5:30 p.m.
-Concert put on by Everclear, Florez, and Nina Sky
-Judson Laipply (Creator of the Evolution of Dance)
-Inflatable rope ladder/velcro wall/ obstacle course and "fun-gee" jumping
-Make your own leather bracelets
-Spray paint art
-Caricatures on hats and t-shirts
-On site photos with frames

How safe are we?

BY CASEY MCKENNA
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

An important concern among students when attending a university is the level of safety on campus. The concern is one that has sparked the comments of many students and faculty members alike at Saint Leo University. As remote as the town of Saint Leo may be, people still find safety a concern and there is no reason they shouldn't. Regardless of how small a town or university may be it is important to remember there is always the possibility of crime occurring and people should always be aware of their surroundings.

"I feel safe because I think that there are a lot of security cameras on campus," said sophomore Elisabeth Denil. If students were asked how many cameras there are on campus and where they are, would anyone be able to answer the question? Probably not.

"There are twenty-four cameras on campus. The bookstore and the café have their own security systems" provided by outside companies, said Ken Posner, assistant vice president for Student Services.

Other individuals interviewed for this article had at least one concern regarding safety on campus.

"Statistically it's been one of the safest campuses. I would like to see controlled access during specific hours," said Fran Reidy, Saint Leo's athletic director, when asked how he felt about the safety of Saint Leo. His suggestion for improvement is one that not many would be opposed to.

Sophomore Kalkidan Woldetsadik does not share the same confidence that Denil does in regards to feeling out of harms way when she is on campus. "I don't feel safe here. Our campus is an open campus that anyone can walk onto, and there is nothing stopping anyone from doing that. I would hate to see an incident similar to the ones that happened at Columbine High School and Virginia Tech happen here at Saint Leo. Something more needs to be done to prevent that," said Woldetsadik. Posner agrees with her saying, "We need to do more because it's the right thing to do."

Security officer Charlie Poole outside of Campus Security. Photography by Brandy Scaglione

Some students feel that the location of the security office is not acceptable. Security guards are not going to be helpful if they are needed in the residence halls. With the office being at the front entrance, some students fear that in the case that an incident did occur, security would not be able to respond in time. Response time is an important factor in preventing potential incidents from escalating, and if this is hard for security to do, students cannot be expected to feel completely safe.

In terms of the tools that assist security in being aware of occurrences, there are security cameras, blue lights, and classroom telephones installed in several areas around campus. As far as east campus is concerned, "the blue light [on east campus] will ring automatically to Dade City Police, in cooperation with them," said Posner. "The campus blue lights are tested weekly," he said..

"Apartments two and three and east campus are the only parking lots with cameras right now. There is a budgetary proposal for cameras in all other student parking lots and the fitness center. The

SAFETY CON'T PAGE 3

Morning Star Fishermen- A hidden jewel in the Saint Leo community

BY KERRI HEASLEY
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Morning Star Fishermen is taking on the task of ending world hunger.

The non-profit, faith based organization has existenced since 1993 and is located right around the corner from the University. This organization is solid proof that small towns can produce great things.

Founded by Hans and Sigrid Geissler, the organization set out to fight world hunger by teaching and doing research on sustainable fish and vegetable farming. Javier Colley, executive director of the organization, plays a large part in everything the organization does. Morning Star Fishermen use the techniques of Aquaponics and Aquaculture (fish farming) technology.

Aquaponics is an innovative approach to raising vegetables and fish protein together. Fish farming produces lots of nitrogen enriched water, which is then used

to fertilize plants and vegetation. The plants grown naturally re-clean the water and it can then be used in the fish tanks again. The facility has many of these tanks, and also have smaller home versions available

MORNING STAR CON'T PAGE 1

Opinions

Watch your butts, smokers

BY JESSICA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

Upon walking around our beautiful campus lately, I have noticed an over abundance of cigarette butts. Now, I have no problem with smokers on campus. However, what I do have a problem with is littering and breaking the Florida state law.

Saint Leo University is very accommodating with the smoking policy. Students are allowed to smoke, but they are simply asked to do it 25 feet from the entrances of any building.

According to the Tobacco Control Network, in Florida, smoking is not allowed in any state building. There are designated smoking areas outside of most state buildings. Any employee who violates this policy is guilty of a non-criminal violation, punishable by disciplinary action up to and including dismissal and/or a fine.

The campus is not smoke free; however, we do have restrictions stating that no one shall smoke within 25 feet to the entrance of a building. Florida is 100 percent smoke-free indoors - the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act (FCIAA) prohibits smoking in all enclosed indoor workplaces.

Many students wish smoking was allowed in the dormitories. However, putting aside state regulations, students have to consider how hazardous it could be and how it would effect other non-smoking students. Last year, there was a terrible fire in Sweetwater started by a cigarette butt that was not fully put out. If that were to happen on campus, think of the repercussions that would ensue.

Also, many students are either directly allergic to smoke or smoke can affect their other allergies in someway. One of the biggest reasons for this is that smoke seeps into the paint on the walls of the dormitory. Students are then constantly exposed to the smoke even if no one is actually smoking. This is also why students are charged for smoking in their rooms; those rooms are repainted to get rid of the smell.

When students smoke, they should make sure they put their butts out and then throw them in the trash. Without these precautions, the butt could start a fire on campus.

Just last week at Marmion and Snyder, someone threw a cigarette butt into the mulch next to the entrance of the building. The mulch, dry leaves, and dead branches all began to burn until there were small flames. Luckily, some residents noticed the fire and it was extinguished and no one was hurt.

A fire, like the one caused at the freshmen dorms, can grow so quickly because of the dry weather. This isn't just an effect occurring at Saint Leo University, but all around Pasco County. According to the *Tampa Tribune*, Florida is in the midst of an unusually active fire season, and so far, Pasco County appears to be a hotbed for brush fires. In the last ten days, Pasco County firefighters have battled a number of wildfires in the area. They first battled an 80-acre wildfire that threatened the Beacon Square community in Holiday and forced the evacuation of 25 homes. There was also a 50-acre brush fire west of Hudson. About 90 percent of the fire was contained Monday evening, and homes in the path of the blaze appeared safe, state forestry officials said. A 20-acre wildfire was burning in a remote wetlands area near the Zephyrhills airport. Lastly, the one closest to our beloved Saint Leo University, was a 100-acre brush fire in a swampy area in San Antonio.

With all of that said, students can tell that we experienceing a bit of a dry spell. So please, be mindful of where you're smoking and where your cigarette butts end up.

FILTER CIGARETTES
Malignant
Warning: Smoking may cause dorm fires.
FILTER CIGARETTES
Malignant
Smoking within 25 feet of campus buildings conflicts with the following core values: Community, Respect, and Responsible Stewardship.
J. Smith

The Presidency, it is A-Changin'

BY LINDSAY RENNER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

President Barack Obama came into the White House not quietly or discreetly, but with a massive storm of attention preceding his arrival. All sparked from the promise of "change" and a whole lot of change is exactly what he brought to the people of the United States.

Change, generally speaking, is a good thing. It gives an opportunity for potentially new and better things to fall into place. However, it does not appear as if the right sort of change has come out of our new president's first month in office.

Obama came in with a fair share of problems left over from the previous administration, and thus far, it does not appear he has done much to alleviate them yet. While he has proposed and successfully gained support for an economic stimulus bill, he has spent more time serving the Democratic Party agenda than catering to the needs of the nation as a whole. Enacting notoriously liberal programs such as government-funded children's healthcare is certainly change, but is it really the right sort of change for our already struggling country? The economy is growing progressively worse, and it seems that logic would dictate another program for the government to sponsor would do little to mollify the poor economic situation. However, that logic did not stop our nation's newest president from electing to pass the bill into law anyway.

Obama has managed to unify the Republican Party (against him, but still, it is unity), while simultaneously pushing key Democratic leaders away from him. Tom Daschle, the well-known Senate Democrat who was slated to aid Obama in his healthcare reforms, and Nancy Killefer, who was designated for the spot of Chief Performance Officer, withdrew their support of Obama on the same day, forcing him to go on television and admit "I screwed up." He further admitted he may have used poor judgment, but not as a result of being unaware of the issues at hand. This raises further question of his judgment: if he was aware that one of his selections for the cabinet might not be the best suited for the job, why would he choose to select that person in the first place? Being aware of a problem does not excuse it if one does not make a move to correct the mistake.

Obama has also failed to take a hard line on virtually any issue. He instead prefers to try and find the middle ground on issues that are in need of a firm yes-or-no stance. For example, one needs to look no further than the issue presented by Guantanamo Bay. Obama signed an executive order, at the left's urging, to close the camp down, but it is not immediately clear when this is supposed to happen. Where Afghanistan is concerned, Obama chose to create a task force to decide what to do about the situation, rather than come up with a solution on his own.

The first month of a historic presidency has already come and gone. In this month, Obama has only heavily addressed domestic policies. What he does with foreign policy largely remains to be seen. Hopefully, he will choose to take a direct line on the issues, rather than skirting around them. At this point, the United States is still not fully respected on the international scene. What we need now more than ever is a president with the ability to fully restore our global standing, as Reagan did in the 1980s and Roosevelt did in the 1930s.

Here's to hoping Obama gets his act together long enough to restore the United States to its former glory.

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Corrections

In the article "Financial aid faces an increase in demand" in the February 20, 2009 edition of The Lions' Pride, the web address for the FAFSA was incorrect. The form can be found at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Write here

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in the Student Activities Center, office 106. Our phone number is (352) 588-8316. Send letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride: 33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574 or email us at lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

— SAFETY CON'T FROM PAGE 1

bookstore and the dining hall have their own security systems," said Posner.

This should comfort students on campus.

"I feel safe accept for at night. Anyone can be around. I think the cameras that are on campus need to work, and more cameras should be added," said junior Ashleigh Protus.

As far as other changes that will be taking place, "this coming summer there will be phones installed in Lewis Hall and interviews are taking place for a new Executive Director of Campus Security and Safety. They will be coordinating all crisis and response on campus," said Posner.

Woldetsadik, who is concerned with the security services on campus, said (from her experience), "the shuttles have not been available during all hours and students are being forced to walk across campus alone, late at night." She along with other students wanted to know the specific hours that security is available to shuttle students from Marmion & Snyder Hall to campus and vise versa, and if there are any exceptions beyond those hours.

"Vans run Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. If it's outside those hours an escort from Campus Security will be provided. If there is an issue with that, students can come talk to me," said Posner. One of the most important things he could tell a student is "if you feel something doesn't belong or seems out of the ordinary, first contact Campus Security. Utilize campus safety" he said. "Don't leave valuables in vehicles. People aren't locking their doors," continued Posner. That is when people run into issues where their belongings are being stolen.

Here are some things that students can do in order to be and feel safe on campus:

IN THE PARKING LOTS:

~When possible, park as close to the buildings as you can.

~Have a group of friends meet you in the parking lot if it is dark and/or late.

~*BE AWARE* of your surroundings. If something doesn't feel right, don't leave your car and call campus safety to escort you to your destination.

IN AND AROUND BUILDINGS:

~If you don't recognize individuals who are trying to get into your building, do not let them in.

(It is a fairly small campus, and if you've been here for at least a semester, you start to recognize the people who you have classes with and the people who live in the residence halls).

~Lock your apartment/dorm room doors and don't leave them propped open.

~Close and lock your windows when you aren't in your apartments/dorm rooms.

ON CAMPUS:

~Walk with groups of people you know well.

~Try to stay inside of buildings late at night.

~*BE AWARE*: just as if you were in the parking lot, be aware of your surroundings.

GET TO KNOW:

~The individuals who work for campus safety (They are here to help you when you need them to).

~The people you hang out with. (If they are doing things you aren't comfortable with, it may be time to cut some ties).

~Your campus (Know where security is if you don't already. Know where more desirable parking spots are-where people can see you. Know where the classroom telephones are located, where the blue lights are, and where safety cameras are located).

MORNING STAR CON'T FROM PAGE 1

for purchase.

The main goal of Morning Star Fishermen is to teach people. They are not looking to merely feed people. The organization's mission is to teach people how to feed themselves as well as their families and communities. There are a number of different courses individuals can be trained in. The classes include Aquaculture and Hydroponics technology, fish biology (fish farming, hatchery, husbandry, grow-out techniques), basic horticulture technique (food plant/vegetable cultivation), alternative energy and sustainable permaculture, and lastly community development.

Morning Star Fishermen not only trains individuals in their Dade City facilities, they travel to other countries to train people in need as well. MSF has traveled to countries such as Puerto Rico, Haiti, and Nicaragua to help the communities learn to grow food and raise fish for themselves. Morning Star Fishermen constructed tanks containing fish to feed these communities and left people with the tools and training to raise more when those fish were gone.

The organization is solely based on volunteers. Anyone interested can volunteer at the Dade City facilities doing a number of different things. The organization is also on a donation only basis. Without donations, Morning Star Fishermen would not be able to continue doing the work they do.

Morning Star Fishermen is working closely with a communication management class at Saint Leo University in order to gain more publicity. Professor Margaret Ostrenko's public relations class is currently working hand in hand with Morning Star Fishermen to spread the word about the great work the organization is contributing to this community as well as to communities around the globe.

The work of Morning Star Fishermen can only continue as long as donations continue. Morning Star Fishermen is hoping more publicity in the form of newsletters, brochures, and various donation boxes placed in local stores will help raise awareness for their cause. The organization has so many ideas and new projects they would like to take on, but do not have an endless supply of funds to aid in their efforts.

Funding is not the only thing the Morning Star Fishermen organization seeks. Volunteers play an essential role in the upkeep and smooth running of the facilities. Anyone is eligible to volunteer their time with the organization. Volunteer inquiries can be made directly to Morning Star Fishermen at their Dade City, Florida location.

"Everyone is experiencing the recession, but look what we're doing," said Morning Star Fishermen founder Hans Geissler. "We are continuing to educate and feed people in need. We are not on the losing side; we're winning. We're on the right side of this battle."

The Morning Star Fishermen organization is doing a noble deed even in the state of today's world and economy. In a time when not many people can afford to give back, Morning Star Fishermen still makes it a priority to help others.

Spring break: bad economy style

BY COLLEEN SHANAHAN
Lions' Pride Assistant Online Editor

Breathe deep everyone… Spring break is almost here. Nothing beats escaping life as we know it at Saint Leo University for a week, except for a full wallet. The economy is tough right now, and people are already talking about cutting back on spring break activities.

While this is great for the wallet, it is not so great for much needed relaxation. Don't worry too much, though, there are deals out there to be had for your spring break, you just need to know where to look.

For the following deals or suggestions, please be aware they may have changed. These deals and suggestions come from websites notorious for having things expire before the stated date because they are so popular. Also, if a deal sounds good, jump on it as soon as possible because waiting has led to losing out on the deal. Lastly, make sure to read the terms and conditions for the trips and/or coupons found on these websites. These deals and sites are meant for suggestions, and the reader is responsible for finding out if there are taxes or other fees associated with them.

Slickdeals.net

• This site is a cornucopia of deals. From hot deals to coupons, anyone is a search term away from finding what they were searching for.

Some things to think about searching for:

• Hotels
• Vacations for spring break
• Discounts on things to do (like theme parks)
• Airline Discounts

Some terms to consider searching for:

• Disney
• Universal Studios
• Spring Break
• Cheap Travel

Fatwallet.com

• This site is like slickdeals.net

Go here if you want to see what others have to say about the same deal or check out new ones

Travelzoo.com

(Sign up is required to see deals.)

• Sign up for their top 20 deals e-mail
• This allows you to see hot, up-to-date travel deals
• These deals book very fast

Vacationstogo.com

(Sign up is required to see deals.)

• Considering a short cruise for spring break? This is the site to go to for last minute deals on cruises.
• These deals can disappear within minutes.

Here are some features on this site:

• 90-day ticker
• Cruises within this time frame are the most heavily discounted

Spring break cruises fit in perfectly because the closer the cruise gets, the more opportunity for discount because the line wants to sellout their rooms.

These are just a few ideas to get spring breakers started on the path to good deals. Go out, push the limits of conventional spring break spending, and save on a good time! Just because the economy is bad doesn't mean that people can't go out and have a great spring break. Searchers just need to know where to look to find the good deals that are out there to be found. Even if no deals are to be found this time around, now people have the knowledge of where to go for deals. Happy spring breaking and saving Saint Leo University.

Sandhill Review to expand for Spring 2009

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

For athletes, it's all about the game. For actors, it's all about opening night. For writers, it's all about being published.

For the last 20 years, the Sandhill Review, Saint Leo's literary magazine, has given the university's writers and artists just that chance: to see their work published in a professionally produced book.

Dr. Kurt Van Wilt, a professor of English at Saint Leo University, originally started the Sandhill Review with former Saint Leo instructor Tom Abrams as a private journal for artists of the greater Tampa Bay area. Over the ensuing years, the publication evolved into a literary magazine for the Saint Leo University student body and the surrounding community while still including select work from Tampa area artists.

The Spring 2009 volume of the Sandhill Review will continue this tradition. "This issue will include pieces by ourstanding area artists such as Peter Meinke, Rita Ciresi, James Tokley, Gianna Russo, and Lori Ballard," said Wilt, who serves as poetry editor.

This year's Sandhill Review will likely have an expanded distribution under consulting editor Anna Maria Becker Crerand. The Sandhill Review editorial staff is working to secure distribution through Barnes & Noble bookstores with the goal of reaching the entire Gulf Coast region.

Saint Leo faculty are also helping to get out the word about the Sandhill Review by sponsoring workshops and readings at the Wiregrass Barnes & Noble in Wesley Chapel every other Thursday, dubbed The Writers' Circle. This strategy of expanding the Sandhill Review's distribution will likely lead to greater exposure of the magazine's student contributors. Already there are plans to offer an online version of the magazine to allow for even more focus on Saint Leo artists.

Wilt, prose editor Dr. Patrick Crerand, and design editor Dr. Lee Hobbes hope to have the Sandhill Review published and ready by April 10. They are being assisted this semester by Senior Sarah Tatko.

Wilt is also planning a Sandhill Review release party as in years past in conjunction with a public reading of pieces featured in the magazine. These readings typically take place in the reading area of the Cannon Memorial Library. The date for the next reading has not yet been set.

Focus On the Nation

Empowering a generation to Power A Nation

BY JESSICA PALL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Students and faculty of all interests worked together to bring awareness to Saint Leo campus concerning social and environmental justice issues, Thursday, February 19.

Focus the Nation began as a nation-wide effort of thousands of educational and religious institutions and businesses to bring awareness to global warming and climate change and discuss solutions to change these problems. Saint Leo University added social justice to their Focus on the Nation event this year, to add discussions about poverty, hate, discrimination, violence, homelessness, hunger, and war.

Attendees had the option of participating in a variety of discussions scheduled over three 50-minute time frames.

Overall, there were 66 presentations featuring a variety of social and environmental justice issues. The afternoon proved to be a success for both attendees and presenters.

Sophomore Liz Casey attended three of the afternoon sessions. She felt the presentations were affective in bringing awareness about social and environmental issues.

"*Feed the Nation: A Personal Look at the Homeless* really affected me," she said. "It made me realize how much food our campus wastes. After the presentation, I feel that as a community we should try to be more involved in using unused food to feed the hungry."

Presenters were thankful for the attendance and interest in the event. Sophomore Moon Lee, presenting *FTO: Global Sea Level Rise and Its Effects on Animals* commented, "I was surprised by the amount of interest. I didn't think there would be so many people attending that would be interested in social justice and global warming."

For the most part, the presentations were supported and directed by the student's pre-made power-points. However, supplemental activities such as surveys and quizzes were given for hands on interaction. In the presentation, "Human Trafficking," attendees were especially lucky as candy was given out for those who got the right answer on the quiz.

The day wasn't over with the presentations however. A reception was given in the Student Community Center along with a movie night in the library, showing Darwin's Nightmare.

Overall, the day was a success. Although many students came because of class requirement or extra credit, they participated with the presenters—their classmates. Discussions occurred as students and faculty dealt with the different issues being presented.

Hopefully, this year's Focus on the Nation brought awareness of social and environmental justice to both presenters and attendees and that their new knowledge will enable them to become better citizens and members of society.

Photograph by Donavan Rummel

Above: Students and faculty discuss the Focus the Nation presentations while enjoying some food.
Below: Presenter Jessica Moreira talked about the "Fat Food Nation: How Fast food is Expanding Our Waste and Waistlines" along with Heather Leavitt who talked about "Recycling at Saint Leo: How to Get Involved."

Photograph by Donavan Rummel

Have you fed your pig today?

Thousands of pigs are on the loose throughout Saint Leo University and they sure are hungry. Whether it is your individual piggy bank, the big community pig or his virtual twin, please feed them with your spare change in support of the Saint Leo Annual Fund.

For more information, to make a gift, or to get involved visit http://alumni.saintleo.edu/supportchange.php or contact Elizabeth Barr at 352/588-8824

Did you know St. Patrick wasn't Irish?

MARY F CHUHINKO
The Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Saint Patrick's Day is the day when everyone claims to be just a little bit Irish. Almost everybody celebrates St. Patrick's Day by wearing green, searching for Leprechauns, and mostly for an excuse to drink. People don't often ask why we celebrate this day. The reason is obviously in honor of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, although his life is not often brought up.

The life of St. Patrick has been widely discussed. It has been said that he was born near the end of the fourth century, around 387-400 A.D. St. Patrick, whose birth name was Maewyn, was born at Kilpatrick in Scotland. There was no evidence that St. Patrick came from a religious family.

When St. Patrick was sixteen, a group of Irish raiders attacked his family estate and took St. Patrick prisoner. They took him back to Ireland, where he was sold into slavery. During St. Patrick's time in captivity, he worked as a shepherd, away from people for most of the time. During this time St. Patrick turned to religion as a way of coping. He became a devout Christian.

After six years it was believed that St. Patrick heard a voice from God, who told him it was time to leave Ireland. St. Patrick escaped from captivity and traveled back to Britain. Once returned, he wanted to devote his life to Christianity. He went to Gaul where he studied for 12 years in the monastery under St. Germain the Bishop of Auxerre. St. Patrick became a priest.

St. Patrick was appointed as second bishop to Ireland. His dream had always been to convert the native pagans to Christianity. St. Patrick was quite the rebel rouser and upset the Celtic Druids over his beliefs. St. Patrick was arrested several times and escaped unharmed each time. Over the years St. Patrick established monasteries, schools, and churches while he traveled across Ireland. After devoting 30 years of his life to Ireland, St. Patrick retired to County Down and passed away on March 17 around 461 A.D.

One of the most well known Irish symbols is that of the shamrock. It has been said that St. Patrick used a three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity: how the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit can all exist separately, yet all come together as one.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place New York City on March 17, 1762. Irish soldiers serving in the English military were the first people to march in this historic celebration. In 1962, city pollution-control workers of Chicago used dyes to trace illegal sewage discharges. When the river turned green, they realized that it would be a unique way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. They used to use about 100 pounds of green vegetable dye to keep the river green for a week. To minimize damage to the environment, only 40 pounds of dye is used which keeps the river green for several hours.

St. Patrick's day is right around the corner, so start getting your green out and enjoy the day.

A Trio of Florida Poets

Peter Meinke Kurt Wilt Gianna Russo

READING and BOOK SIGNING

Monday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.

Saint Leo University
Cannon Memorial Library
33701 State Road 52
For info: 352-588-8258

Free and Open to the Public

Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts

Friggatriskaidekaphobia: Fear of Friday the 13

COLLEEN SHANAHAN
The Lions' Pride Online Editor

Usually, when Friday the 13th rolls around once a year, people are pretty excited to get it over with. However, this year, it has and will be a bit different. We have the pleasure of celebrating the holiday three times and even back to back during February and March. So why is there a stigma surrounding this holiday? Is this just a socially constructed fear, or is this date truly horrific? Decide for yourself.

Skepdic.com defines friggatriskaidekaphobia, or fear of Friday the 13th also known as paraskavedekatriaphobia, as: "Friday is Frigga's Day. Frigga (Frigg) was an ancient Scandinavian fertility and love goddess, equivalent to the Roman Venus who had been worshipped on the sixth day of the week. Christians called Frigga a witch and Friday the witches' Sabbath."

According to Time.com, here are some common reasons as to why Friday the 13th is shrouded in such misery:

·Some historians peg the superstition to the thirteen people who attended the Last Supper (neither Jesus nor Judas came out of that one OK)

·Most tall buildings don't have a 13th floor (Santa Anita, a horse racing track, does not have a stall 13- it goes 12, 12A, 14).

·In 1907, eccentric Boston stockbroker Thomas Lawson published a book called *Friday the Thirteenth*, which told of an evil businessman's attempt to crash the stock market on the unluckiest day of the month.

·Wall Street's superstitions about Friday the 13th continued through 1925, when the New York *Times* noted that people "would no more buy or sell a share of stock today than they would walk under a ladder or kick a black cat out of their path."

·The Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute estimates that $700-$800 million dollars are lost every Friday the 13th due to people's refusal to travel, purchase major items, or conduct business.

Even though there are a lot of disagreements about whether Friday the 13th is just superstition or something to be feared, the days don't come around often, so enjoy them... if you dare to get out of bed.

Art For Art

The Lions' Pride is opening the doors of the April 10th issue to creative minds of Saint Leo University. Dubbed "Art for Art's Sake," this issue will feature prose and art work from the students of Saint Leo University.

Submissions are being accepted until April 3rd with group and individual projects welcome. To be considered, please fill out this entry form and submit it with work to the Newspaper office in the Student Activities Building:

Name:_____

E-mail:_____

Mail Code:_____

Submission Name:_____

Submission Type:_____

- **Flash Fiction (500 wc max.)**
- **Short Story (1000 wc max.)**
- **Poetry (20 lines max)**
- **Painting**
- **Drawing**
- **Short Film (30min/online ONLY)**
- **Other**

****Submit a PICTURE of painting/ drawing, NOT actual work.**

****Students may only submit three (3) works**

For more information, send questions to simone.williams@email.saintleo.edu

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Arts & Entertainment

Mardi Gras at Universal

BY MARY F. CHUHINKO
Lions' Pride Staff Editor

Excitement was in the air as everyone waited with great anticipation for the night's big event: Universal celebrates its 14th Mardi Gras celebration in style!

The park was all set. Everywhere people looked the park was covered in green, gold and purple.

Creative mind Micheal Roddy was the first speaker of the night. This is his tenth year with Universal as a director. It was his idea to bring a little bit of New Orleans to Orlando, Florida 14 years ago. Previous to this event, a Mardi Gras celebration had never been done before.

Michael Roddy said that the Universal Mardi Gras celebration is the most authentic celebration people will find, without traveling to New Orleans. He wanted to create an environment that was as exciting as the real thing, but safer. New Orleans is more for adults and children can't get involved.

This year's theme is Stories, giving guests a glimpse into the world of literature, expanding from fantasy to horror. The floats are specifically designed to replicate a true Mardi Gras Float. The choice for the theme and decorations is in direct correlation to what will be the most exciting. He wants the entire event to be a "visual feast for the eyes."

Every weekend is a party, which is why they have the free concerts geared towards a specific crowd. Careful planning goes into every detail, the right groups to play for the right crowds, such as during spring break and biker's week. They get headline acts such as Ne-Yo, Kelly Clarkson, and Frankie Valley.

As for what everyone is really there for, the beads are the big turn on. When asked how many beads are used, Michael Roddy simply said, "a hell of a lot." Seriously, they get crates, and crates, and more crates full of boxes that are stuffed with beads. No matter how many they get, it is never enough and they are always ordering more towards the end. Although over the years coins have been thrown, this year there are only beads.

"One thing that thrives during economic crisis, such as the recession, is the entertainment industry," Michael Roddy explained. Guests come to the park to have a good time and to forget their problems. It is Universal's job to throw guests a great party. He said nothing was cut back this year.

Our second and last speaker for the night, the director of talent booking, Jim Stout overviews the live entertainment, and is in charge of Mardi Gras and New Year's Eve celebration.

Stout drives students in by looking into what artists will be in the area and from all over the place, because that is what central Florida is all about, diversity and entertainment. It takes a long time to prepare for Mardi Gras, and surprisingly, they are currently starting to work on 2010's celebration.

The decision for who the entertainment will be starts in May and lasts through December. Jim Stout starts by searching tour dates on www.Pollstar.com. It is a challenging process for booking entertainers, and it once took him seven years to finally book Barenaked Ladies. The agents play a major role when booking stars and they try to get the most successful people out there.

Jim Stout stressed that it was all about relations. Although it is hard for Universal to book stars, there are many artists out there who really want it. Playing during Mardi Gras is good exposure and they are able to play in a family atmosphere. With that said Universal has a strict "no profanity" clause. They always research the content of their artists, even going as far as to search on www.Lyrics.com for content. Many artists try to push the envelope, and try to slip something in.

They recently replaced the removable stage with a permanent home. The stage is called the "Music Plaza" and is bigger and is used for more action. They invested in the permanent stage for the guest's enjoyment. The night's musical guest was Ne-Yo, and Stout laughed as one reporter asked if we would see him.

Stilt artists pose with Leo the lion for Universal's Mardi Gras. Photograph by Rosanne Cannizzo

"No one meets Ne-Yo, No one even looks at him," he said.

As for the concert, the crowd was packed and was ready to jam out. It was an exciting event.

Walking the streets of Universal was like stepping into the real Mardi Gras. Drinks were being served to guests festively dressed in flopping fury hats, wearing giant themed beads. Side vendors sold feathery gold, purple and green masks with matching wings. There were beaded headdresses and shot glasses.

Walking down the street we came across a street band playing in front of Dr. Emmet Brown's time machine train. People were lining up to get a good seat for parade hours in advance. As this reporter grabbed a seat in San Franciso/Amity she couldn't help but notice how relaxed the atmosphere was. No one was in a hurry. Everyone took their time as they partied in the streets.

As 8 p.m. rolled around, cops on motorcycles cleared the area, as the parade was about to start. Each float was decorated, to create an authentic New Orleans atmosphere. Michael Roddy was not lying when he said that there were a lot of beads. Everyone in the crowd was able to catch the many that flew from into the air. The actors in the parade were friendly and professional. They pumped up the crowd as they danced by. The float themes varied from children, fantasy, horror, western, mystery, mythology and many more.

It was an incredible experience that left people wanting more.

Bad Luck on Friday the 13th

BY ANDREW SHALNA
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Photo source: arbeyond.webbuilder.hostbasket.com

As I sat in the theater waiting for the newest, and hopefully last, *Friday the 13th* to start, I couldn't help but wonder if I was going to be viewing an update of 2003's *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, with Jason Vorhees. Five minutes into the movie, I was convinced that is just what director Marcus Nispel had done.

In this newest installment, ignorant teens venture into the woods of Crystal Lake, this time searching for marijuana. Jason appears, mostly when the teens are engaged in sexual activity, and begins to pick them off one by one. Sound familiar?

Unlike previous *Friday the 13th* movies, Jason is personified as a totally different type of character, taking the once stalking and slashing villain and turning him into something different. Throughout the movie, Jason not only sets different traps, but also holds a woman hostage in his basement. The actions greatly resemble Leatherface, the main protagonist of the *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, one of Nispel's other remakes.

As previous films have shown us, Jason is not meant to torture victims and set intricate traps, but to roam the woods with his machete, as he has done in the true parts of the series. Not wanting to go into too much detail, but when Jason starts setting bear traps and trip wire throughout the woods, while keeping a young girl imprisoned, you know you are not watching a true *Friday the 13th* movie. Sadly, we have not seen one since 1983's *Friday the 13th Part III*.

While the movie was indeed entertaining, I couldn't help but "riff" throughout the entire movie, as every single aspect was cliché and overdone. Riffing, of course, is making fun of a movie throughout its entire playing time.

While the overall movie was subpar, Nispel should be commended on his attempt to reinvent the series. Unfortunately, making Jason similar to Leatherface was not the way to go and the movie fell flat. Despite this, the movie broke President's Day box office records and will most likely spawn a sequel, just like nearly every financially successful movie. Hopefully, the next film will have Jason in a role he is accustomed to, not a cheap knock off of Leatherface.

Getting high on love

BY RENEE FORERO
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Vocal artist Chester Gregory performs for a live audience.

Photograph by Renee Forero

Music nowadays is catchy and has a way of grabbing everyone's attention, but the only thing that music is missing is originality and heart. Chester Gregory is on his way to bring heart back into music. With a resume that includes receiving a standing ovation from Michael Jackson, working with Phil Collins and performing on the Daily Show with Jon Stewart, how can anyone deny his talent when he has spent time with some of the most respected artists in music?

Born in Gay, Indiana, Gregory first made his voice heard when he portrayed Jackie Wilson in The Jackie Wilson Story in Chicago. Then he moved out to Broadway and played Seaweed in the Tony Award winning hit *Hairspray*. After spending three years in *Hairspray*, Gregory received the chance to work with Phil Collins as he was bringing the Disney hit *Tarzan* onto Broadway and was offered the role of Terk, Tarzans sidekick. Collins even wrote the song, "Who Better Than Me" specifically for Gregory and his vocals. After the closing of *Tarzan* in July 2007, Gregory then got offered another John Waters production. Waters had already had amazing success with *Hairspray* on Broadway so he decided to bring his other hit, *Cry Baby* to the stage. Gregory was offered the role of Dupree, Cry Baby's sidekick. Sad to say, *Cry Baby* was not as big of a success as it was set out to be nor did it even come close to *Hairspray*'s numbers. *Cry Baby* closed after just three months on Broadway. But with Waters and Gregory's history, he put Gregory into the *Hairspray* movie remake and even gave him his own song on the soundtrack, "Breakout." Shortly after, Gregory played the role of Donkey in *Shrek the Musical* as they were opening it in Seattle. The production company of *Shrek* denied him a contract for the Broadway and dropped Gregory from the cast as they were transferring the show to New York.

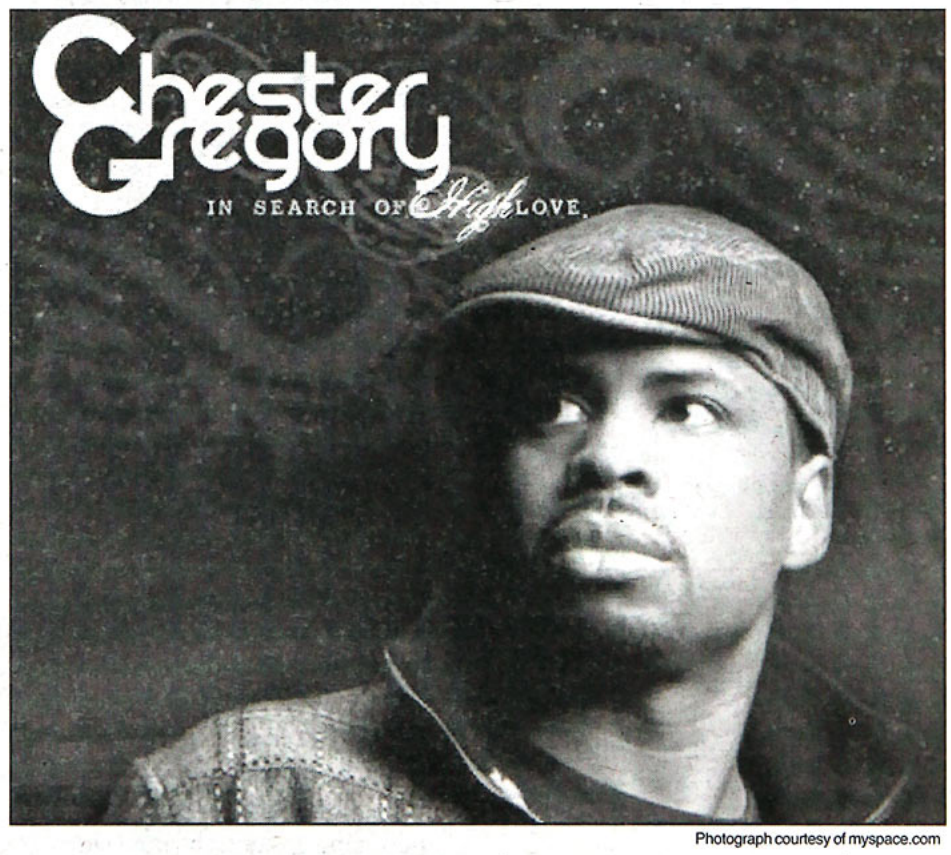
The pattern that is shown through out Gregory's career is that he has always had to play the sidekick to everyone. Well now it's his turn to take center stage. In *Search of High Love* came out last July to rave reviews from all over the music industry. Gregory was even BET's Artist of the Month. Gregory has been touring between L.A. and New York to sold out audiences in hopes to turn his independent career into a major mark in R&B music worldwide and to achieve his dream of having a strong R&B following.

A few things that separate Gregory from the other artists out there are that he puts his heart and soul into his music. *High Love*, had started out originally as a demo and only had two songs, "Questions" and "High Love." Instead, Gregory took three years to write the album and do exactly as the title says, "search for love." Gregory has an amazing voice, with a five-octave range and amazing lyrics that touch one's heart. Gregory touches the topics of a broken heart, being in love, searching for love and what it is like to be in a relationship. The only message he wants to send to his music listeners is simple, "Love."

For the majority of Gregory's career, he has been playing roles and singing and dancing other people's songs, and this album gives him a chance to express his feelings and let his story be heard. *High Love* took Gregory three years to create; he wrote and co-produced most of the record. While making this record, Gregory was given the chance to work with Grammy Award winning producers Dave Tozer, who has worked with Kanye West and John Legend, and the ever so popular PJ Morton, who has worked with India, Arie. L.A. producers Afta-1, Nevi-Nev and J Most also extended their hand in helping Chester and producing the record.

One of the main qualities that attract people and fans to Chester Gregory is how humble and real he is to his fans. He actively uses his Myspace and Facebook to keep in contact with all of his fans, and it gives him a chance to do some networking. Back in October of 2006, the producers of the Daily Show with Jon Stewart sent Gregory a message on Myspace that got him the job to perform. Both these networking sites give Gregory a better way to communicate and get to know who his fans are as well as get his music and up-coming shows out for everyone to see.

Some listeners compare Gregory to John Legend, Usher, Prince and Jackie Wilson. Yet, Gregory appears to be in a category all his own. With being a singer, dancer, producer, writer and actor he is the full package deal. Gregory currently stays in Manhattan and is spreading the word about his music. In the past few months Gregory has been everywhere from performing on the Today Show and even singing for New York mayor, Michael Bloomberg. Everyone who has already heard Gregory knows the talent he possesses. Those who actually have the privilege of watching him perform leave the show speechless. In *Search of High Love* is available on iTunes, www.cdbaby.com, as well as Chester's myspace (www.myspace.com/chestergregory) and his website (www.chestergregory.com). With all of the stress and turmoil our country is going through, it is good to be able to escape from the madness and just relax. That is exactly what Chester Gregory's music is; it's about appreciating the little things and being open to love.



Photograph courtesy of myspace.com

Sports

Women's Golf team wins first conference tournament

Tournament that almost wasn't, created history.

BY JESSICA PALL
Lions' Pride Assistant Sports Editor

A tournament that was almost cancelled for the Lady Lions Golf Team turned into making history for Saint Leo University. Overcoming uncontrollable obstacles, the Lions golfers won their first tournament in the history of their program.

Friday, the day before the tournament, the players were informed that Coach Erika Danford would not be able to travel with them to Alabama to compete in the Ann Rhoads Southern Shootout due to a recent death in the family. Thankfully, the trip was not cancelled, as Interim Swim Coach Kathy Lavery volunteered to take the team to Birmingham.

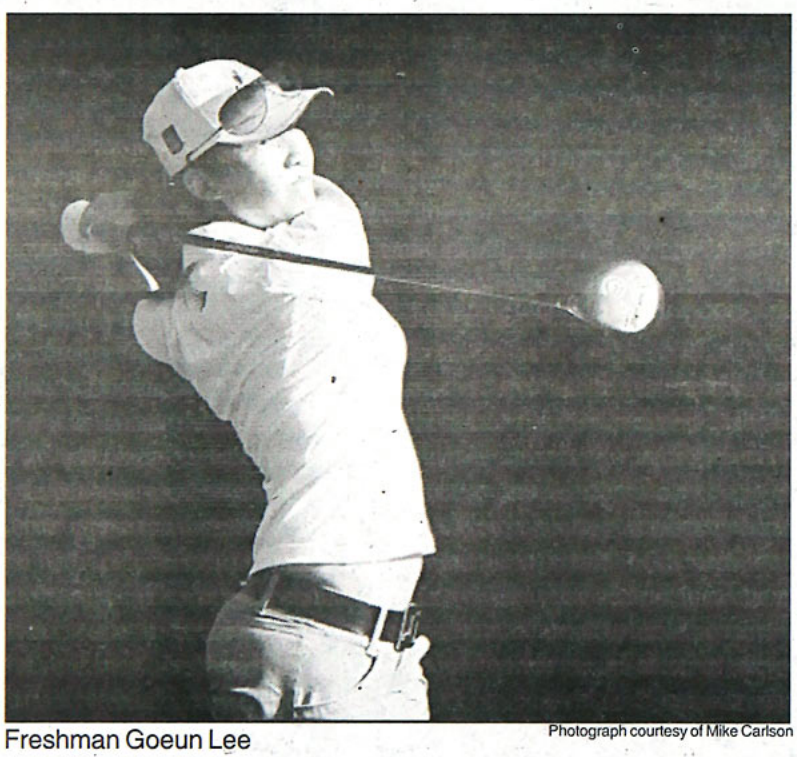
Once in Alabama, the weather was freezing. It took the Lady Lions 5 ½ hours to finish play. In fact, it was so cold that it was unknown whether the other 11 teams could complete playing. The Lions also worried whether their returning flight would be cancelled the next day because of à frost delay.

At the end of the night, however, the first of the good news arrived. The team learned they were one stroke behind 1st place.

Monday morning arrived, with the golfers hoping for the best. The Lions' team outdid themselves by winning the tournament with a team total of 319, four strokes ahead of The University of West Florida.

The team of five all contributed to their winning success. Goeun Lee tied for 5th place, shooting 77-78—155 making all tournament team, Anna Riss tied for 6th with 78-79—157, and Kristina Carvalho tied for 15th with 85-78—163. All three shot in the 70's to help bring victory. The Lion's Tricia Maloney shot 86-85—171 in 24th place and Meghan Costello shot 88-84—172 finishing in 26th place helping make Saint Leo Golf history.

"Overall, it was a great tournament. It gave us all confidence and more importantly brought our coach some happiness in her time of loss," said senior Meghan Costello.



Freshman Goeun Lee

Photograph courtesy of Mike Carlson

Editorial:

Life Support or a Face Lift: Is the newspaper becoming obsolete?

BY COLLIN R. GOOD
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Since 1967, Saint Leo has produced a newspaper for students, by students. This newspaper has seen multiple name changes, not only of the paper itself, but of the institution it covers. Newspapers helped found this country, fueling rebellion from the print shops of Boston and Philadelphia. There was a time where the news was found solely in the print medium we take somewhat for granted today. Perhaps, this is becoming a bygone trend. Perhaps, we're clinging to obsolete beliefs, like how no matter what the scientists say, most of us are still going to see Pluto as a planet, because it was when we learned what it was, and we don't care to relearn everything we know.

Newspaper men monopolized the information of the age, in a time not so long ago. Men like William Randolph Hurst controlled what people knew, and charged them if they wanted to know it. Somewhere along the way, men like Rupert Murdoch and Ted Turner became the Hursts of today, and they took the news to a new level: the internet.

While I'm a big fan of the internet, as most of us on campus are, it's not my primary source of news. I'm more of an MSNBC watcher, but there, the news can only be reported so many times before it hits redundancy. Dr. Douglas Astolfi, a Presidential Historian, former university President, and current Professor of History at Saint Leo University, requires his students to read The New York Times on a daily basis, which our school provides to students free of charge. But while I was enrolled in his class, I found myself reading online rather than grabbing the print copy.

"Print is not dead," said Ted Powers, newspaper advisor at Moraine Valley Community College. "I think Sports is probably the most prominent section in college newspapers."

Mr. Powers is right. Print is not dead. Not in the least. We still buy textbooks each semester that cost upwards of $100, evidence of an industry not ready to make the switch to digital pages. But just as Mr. Powers is correct, so are those who say the newspaper is dying. Millions of Americans receive the newspaper every day. Many of those either refuse to read online news or just don't own a computer. Regardless of the reason, newspapers are hurting.

When I became Sports Editor, I promised you a new look to the Sports page. The school of thought is changing in regard to presenting sports, and I'm getting on board (but don't call me a bandwagon fan; I've been supporting the Red Sox and the Dolphins for the past 18 years.) More and more papers are choosing to preview games rather than recap, and I couldn't agree more. Starting now, *The Lions' Pride* Sports section will feature the athletes, the wacky things that happen at games, meets, and matches, and plays of the week, as well as the occasional column. That being said, every sport will be covered online, with the stories written by our Sportswriting team, uploaded within 24 hours of the event taking place. Sportswriters will be needed to achieve our attainable yet somewhat lofty goals. Non-work study and work study writers can apply with me in the newspaper office or by email (Collin.r.good@gmail.com). We pay well, and writers can work up to 20 hours each week.

"We take newspapers for granted," writes Paul Starr of The New Republic, in the March 1 issue of *The Sacramento Bee*. "They have been so integral a part of daily life in America, so central to politics and culture and business, and so power and profitable in their own right, that it is easy to forget what a remarkable historical invention they are."

Starr is right. So are Powers, Turner, and Hurst. *The Lions' Pride* strives to put out a quality publication twice a month, so be sure to pick one up and find out a little bit more about the games than just the scores.

Swimmers face challenges during conference

Swim teams battle illness on the road in conference championship.

BY MINDY PIERCE AND JESSICA PALL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer & Lions' Pride Assistant Sports Editor

It was a tough week for the Lion's Men and Women's Swim Team at the Bluegrass Mountain Championship conference in Charlotte, North Carolina Valentine's Day Weekend. Surprisingly, it did not have to do with their swimming performances, but rather their health, as the team claimed to have lunch at a restaurant surrounded by suspicion of being the cause of food poisoning

It was only on the night of February 11, the second night of competition, when swimmers began to feel the effects of some kind of food poisoning or stomach virus started to take its course. During the night session of finals of that evening, some swimmers had to go back to the hotel early before the meet even ended. Little did some of the Lions swimmers know that the worst was yet to come.

It wasn't until later in the evening, around nine, when the virus hit some of the athletes head-on. The girls on the team were making runs to buy any kinds of fluids they could find. Meanwhile, while the coach was at the emergency room with a male swimmer, more and more cases of the men's and women's team broke out.

Even with a breakout of food poisoning or a stomach virus, the Lions still had two more days of competition to make their mark in the Bluegrass Mountain Conference.

"It was one of those uncontrollable cases and it could've really happened to any team," said Saint Leo backstroker Alisha Adams. "Our team had to pick up and keep on going."

Overall, the men's team placed 12th and the women's team 13th out of 15 teams. Although higher results are hoped for next year, it was an acceptable finish as many events were scratched and relays reorganized due to the sickness.

The conference ended the season for both swim teams. It was a rough season, with the Lions swim teams losing both the head and assistant coaches at the end of last semester. The teams are grateful for Coach Kathleen Lavery, the former head coach of Mount Union College swim team in Ohio, who came back from retirement to help the Lions out as their interim coach.

Despite the negative setbacks, the team stuck together, still achieving school records and personal best times, and looking forward to a new coach and a great season next year.